Chapter – 9

Conclusion and Suggestions
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After conducting the study of music libraries in general and its Indian context in particular the researcher has come to conclusion that in India there are libraries having music and music related collections but it is very rare that they are organized and disseminated as special collections. The collection comprises mainly of material on music. The material of music is less. This is feature of National Library and University Libraries.

Music library and music librarianship are not just a specialized branch or type of librarianship but it is something beyond the prevalent understanding. This is because music is an inevitable part of human life and the oldest of human arts; it is constantly developing, growing and changing. As more creators of music arise, there is corresponding increase in the users of music too. Consequently there is greater need for more libraries of music. Along with the collection, organization, dissemination and preservation of music, libraries are developing generations of musicians, performers and listener communities. All over the world i.e mainly in USA, UK and other European countries like Germany, Austria, Italy and others the growth of music libraries is remarkable and noteworthy. Music libraries originated primary from the idea to preserve print music. Later on same took care of preservation of sound music also. The existence of such type of libraries is very rarely noticed in Asian or other countries. India is not an exception to this. Though Indian music might be the one of the oldest one in this world, this music is not preserved through any well established library system. Music was not used to be preserved through library system but through its
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educational set up 'gurukul' and some peculiar practices of musical tradition like gharana system. But the researcher strongly recommends the authentic library system especially in the changing environment. Change in human life had an impact on social and cultural life also. The educational system of music has also changed. The pace of change due to new inventions and technology is rapid. The technological changes can be of great help in preservation of music. Using this, a proper music library can add new dimensions to the whole process of music creation and preservation.

As reviewed in the preceding chapters, music libraries are more conceptual and functional. They exist mainly as part of public libraries, national libraries, university libraries, broadcasting centres' libraries and others.

9.1 Indian Scenario

The present scenario in India as regards to sound music and its collection, organization, preservation and dissemination is outlined below.

9.2 National Library

National library of India neither holds sound documents as a part of its collection nor is it having the power to collect the same under Delivery of Books' Act. The National Library collection comprises of print collection on music only. The researcher has suggested for the National Music Library.
9.3 Public Library System

Present set up of a public library in India is not as strong and functional as it ought to be. In this context the point of music collection and services may not seem valid.

The researcher has visited the websites of Delhi Public Library and Connemara Public Library, Chennai. But the researcher could hardly find the information about music and music related collection in these libraries. In the future growth of public libraries music may be part of their collection and services.

9.4 Broadcasting Centres’ Libraries

India has about 200 (two hundred) radio stations and Television Centres. They are playing vital role in popularizing music among all people. In addition to these, private radios and television channels are also coming up and becoming popular. The researcher has tried to find out the status of libraries at such broadcasting centres. The researcher learnt that the information that both the Akashvani i.e. Radio, Doordarshan i.e. television have set up their Archives where old recordings of the centres have been preserved. Digitization of these programmes is carried out. The digitized material is made available to listeners on commercial basis.

The investigator has suggested that Radio and Television libraries may be one of the music libraries which have to be specially developed and flourished in the Indian context.
9.5 Music institutes and the music training institutes

Music institutes and the music training institutes are popularizing music by conducting training programmes and organizing concerts from time to time. The support from libraries is low and minimum. The researcher suggests here the libraries and types of services to be rendered in details in the model.

9.6 University libraries

University libraries in India very rarely maintain music and music related material as part of the collection. But the departments of music maintain music collections. Training of music is carried out both by private music academies and universities in India. It may become possible that both of them collaborate and jointly do the job of training and preserving of music.

9.7 Legal Deposit Act

The researcher has studied the legal deposit aspect in the context of music libraries. It has been observed that countries like USA, Germany, Canada, Austria have incorporated both print music and sound music in their legal deposit Acts. Print music is not a feature of Indian music. But sound music is common since 1950s. The researcher has suggested incorporating sound music in the Legal Deposit Act of India by proposing the model amendment to the Delivery of Books Act which has not been amended since 1956.
9.8 National Music Archives

The establishment of National Music Archives for preservation and dissemination of Music is a boon to Music Library System. World famous examples of music archives, which are either the part of sound archives or independent music archives, are from UK, Ireland, Germany and Canada. To support the function of preservation and dissemination, setup of national music archives has been proposed by the researcher. National Music Information Centres which are the other side of music archives are mainly for dissemination of new and latest music of the respective countries. Extensive and effective use of Information and Communication Technology in collection, organization and dissemination is a remarkable feature of music information centres. Such centres will be feasible in the country only after establishment of coherent and integrated Music Library System.

The researcher has also studied the aspect of digitization of music. In the countries, where well organized music library systems exist, digitization implies two facets - Digitization of print music and digitization of sound music. In India digitization implies – conversion of sound music available in LPs, tapes, cassettes etc. and that too of a varied types of music. In the present times many of the websites on the internet have been traced where Indian sound music is available for free download. But systematic and evaluative study of them is necessary to draw some inferences.

It can be said in general that India, the land of music, musicians, and music lovers is definitely in need of a well integrated and well organized
system in spite of the fact that some efforts have been initiated at the level of music training institutes, private cultural centres, individuals or few groups. To do so, the model has been suggested in the study undertaken here. The efforts of this research are only from the perspective of the concept and the necessity of the music library system in the country.

9.9 Suggestions of further research

Some additional points are to be considered to foster the growth of this system - ideas which can become the areas of future research

- Organization of music – classification scheme for Indian music, catalogue code, indexing techniques, thesaurus construction, preparation of subject heading list are the ways to organize the music which have not been considered in the present study. However, these issues need due consideration in independent research work

- Framing of National Music Information Policy, either as a part of the National Information Policy or independent Music Information Policy will have to be considered on the lines of LIP for music in UK

- Building a National Information System for music

- Webliography of already existing websites devoted to music from India

- Designing and maintaining of websites of various music libraries like training institutes
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- Detailed study of music libraries / archives of radio and television centres. Special software may be developed for management of music data of these centres which are linked with each other.

- How music library system will be symbiotic in Music Therapy in India

The researcher has suggested model both for North and South Indian music together in general but it is suggested here that special study may be undertaken of comparison of both styles of music and it may be examined whether this model will be suitable for them or not.

As the field of music is vast and deep like an ocean, so also the concept of music libraries is. The present study has suggested model on idea plane in conceptual framework. The establishment and the setup of music libraries can be linked with the well established public library system, academic library setup and National Library setup in the country. The existence and development will be complimentary and linked with each other. In the country like India importance given to education and to libraries is not significant and strong as it is in western countries. Music libraries basically conceptual in nature become possible along with strengthening of whole library system of the country. To convert the idea into reality Herculean efforts are essential considering that Library Movement along with the Music Library Movement is immensely required here in our country. Without such efforts music library in India will prove to be a Utopian library.